

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY:NEA/ARP:JWTTWINAM:CEJ

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O 261926Z OCT 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANAMA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 263790

FOLLOWING REPEAT USDAO AMMAN JORDAN 251550Z ACTION SECDEF
SECSTATE INFO OMAN ABU DHABI KUWAIT COMDEASTFOR CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON
DTD 25 OCT 76.

QUOTE: S E C R E T DAO 0738 OCT 76

SUBJ: MIDEASTFOR OPTIONS

DEPSECDEF CLEMENTS SENDS

1. DURING CALL ON AMIR OF BAHRAIN ON 24 OCT, THE GOB FOREIGN
MINISTER TOOK STRONG STAND THAT MIDEASTFOR MUST DEPART BAHRAIN
ON SCHEDULE IN SUMMER OF 1977 (MANAMA 1681). ALTHOUGH AT END
OF SESSION THE AMIR DID SAY TIME REMAINED TO DISCUSS SUBJECT
FURTHER, HIS SILENCE DURING LENGTHY, EMPASSIONED STATEMENT
OF FOREIGN MINISTER LENT IMPRESSION THAT GOB WILL NOT
EXTEND AGREEMENT UNLESS OTHER REGIONAL STATES PUBLICLY
SUPPORT EXTENSION OF MIDEASTFOR PRESENCE IN PERSIAN GULF.
MAIN THRUST OF FOREIGN MINISTER'S ARGUMENTS IS THAT FOREIGN
MILITARY BASE REPRESENTS HEAVY POLITICAL BURDEN GOB CAN NO
LONGER BEAR.

2. I BELIEVE WE MUST EXPLORE OTHER OPTIONS. THE PORTS OF DUBAI,
MUSCAT, AND KUWAIT ALL SEEM FEASIBLE. ACTIVE EFFORTS IN
EXAMINE THE SUBJECT WITH THESE POTENTIAL HOST GOVERNMENTS
COULD WORK POLITICALLY BOTH TO TAKE THE HEAT OFF BAHRAIN

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NOW, AND SHOULD ANY OF THEM AGREE, WOULD PUT THE SQUEEZE ON

THE GOB TO EXTEND THE AGREEMENT.

3. COMIDEASTFOR, RADM CROWE, PLANS TRIP TO MUSCAT IN NEXT FEW DAYS AND VISIT TO DUBAI IN DECEMBER. BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFULL FOR HIM TO EXPLORE OPTION OF RELOCATING MIDEASTFOR ADMIN SUPPORT FACILITY DURING THESE VISITS.

4. REQUEST STATE ISSUE APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS TO AMBASSADORS IN GULF STATES AND THAT SECDEF/JCS ISSUE COORDINATED INSTRUCTIONS TO COMIDEASTFOR.

GDS31DEC84.

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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